

REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, Applicants deleted the claim language “wherein the thin film transistor substrate is provided on a side of the display screen” from independent claim 23. Accordingly, the objection to the drawings should be overcome, and the withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 23, 25, 28-29, and 31-32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kadota et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,818,550), in view of Yoshida et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,734,455). In response, Applicants amended independent claim 23 to recite a columnar spacer having laminated resin layers including the resin color filter layer for maintaining a cell gap between a thin film transistor substrate and a common electrode substrate, and respectfully traverse the rejection as it applies to the amended claim.

Kadota is directed to a color display device for a liquid crystal display apparatus that includes a first substrate having pixel electrodes arranged in the form of a matrix, and color filters aligned with the respective pixel electrodes. The display device has a second substrate that includes a counter electrode, and has liquid crystal provided between the first and second substrates. However, Kadota is silent regarding any spacers between the first and second substrates.

Yoshida is directed to a color liquid crystal display device that includes a first substrate having a surface on which a transparent electrode is located. Yoshida further discloses the second substrate having an electrode arranged to oppose the first

substrate, with liquid crystal sandwiched therebetween. However, Yoshida is also silent regarding any spacers located between the first and second substrates.

In contrast, as shown in FIG. 24 of the present application, a columnar spacer 30 is located between a glass substrate 12 and a common electrode substrate 18. The columnar spacer is formed by having laminated resin layers including the resin color filter layer for maintaining a cell gap between the thin film transistor substrate or glass substrate 12 and the common electrode substrate 18. Since Kadota and Yoshida both fail to disclose or suggest this feature, withdrawal of the §103(a) rejection of independent claim 23 and its respective dependent claims 25, 28-29 and 31-32 is respectfully requested.

Claims 26-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103a) as being unpatentable over Kadota, in view of Yoshida, and further in view of Kurematsu et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,764,318). In response, Applicants traverse the rejection for the reasons recited above with respect to the §103 rejection of independent claim 23.

Kurematsu is directed to a liquid crystal display panel and projector utilizing the display panel. Kurematsu discloses microlenses or a pair of substrates sandwiching a liquid crystal layer. However, Kurematsu fails to overcome the deficiencies of the Kadota and Yoshida references. More specifically, Kurematsu fails to disclose or suggest a columnar spacer with laminated resin layers including a resin color filter layer for maintaining a cell gap between the substrates. Therefore, withdrawal of the §103(a) rejection of claims 26-27 is respectfully requested.

New claims 33-34 are added and are identical to previously cancelled claims 24 and 30. Applicants respectfully solicit allowance of new claims 33-34 for the reasons recited above with respect to the rejection of independent claim 23.

For all of the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that this Application is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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